



Update

Joint Area Review: Staff Newsletter 4

The Inspection Team arrived on Monday to start a week of analysis of the data available on Devon. Some of this is publicly available, for example, through statistical tables; some is in a library of documents made available for their consideration. In addition, we produced our self-evaluation: there is a required maximum length to this document! and after their experiences in 2005 of authorities desperate to cram in too much information in too small a space there is also an imposed minimum font of Ariel 11! and an additional small file of Case Studies is permitted. The documents are available on <http://www.devonjar.org.uk/approach/packages/selfassessment.html> if you want to have a look. Many thanks for all your contributions (and, of course, all your hard work that helps us to achieve the outcomes in the first place).

Monday started informally, with inspectors arriving at County Hall in the morning to settle into the Daw Room, where all technological mod cons are laid on for them. At 12.45 p.m. the Strategic Leadership Team gave an introductory presentation to set the Devon context for them. After that other guests joined us for lunch and in the afternoon there were further informal and introductory conversations with some lead officers on the outcome areas to be judged. These were:

- **Stay Safe:** Pat Clewer
- **Be Healthy:** Miles Hapgood, Ian Tearle (PCT)
- **Enjoy and Achieve:** Roger Fetherston, Deborah Booth
- **Making a Positive Contribution:** Dillon Hughes, Martin Spragg, Claire McMahon
- **Achieve Economic Well-being:** Trevor Day, John Davey (Connexions)
- **Service Management:** Ingrid Fisher, John Barnard

You may be interested in the synopsis of the SLG presentation, as supplied to the Inspection Team: it is attached separately, alongside this Newsletter.

Please do make sure you have a look at the Directorate Business Plan [<http://www4.devon.gov.uk/private/eal/staff/docs/CYPS-BUSINESS-PLAN-2006-07.pdf>], and Workforce Strategy (*wfs*), [<http://www4.devon.gov.uk/private/eal/staff/docs/CYPSwfs.pdf>] especially if you are asked to be in a Focus Group or other event where you will meet one or more of the Inspectors. I will tell you more about these groups in a later newsletter.

It feels good after all our preparation to be in the flow of the inspection now. I hope you may have a chance to talk directly about some of the excellent work you are part of.

Ingrid Fisher
Assistant Director (Policy & Strategy)



An introduction to Devon

Where we are on our journey

Anne Whiteley

- partnership fact finding
- planned evolution
- the Children's Trust pathfinder
- a transition year
- the launch of CYPS: Children and Young People's Services

Our vision for Learning

Ingrid Fisher

- a strengthened partnership with schools
- a shared view of what helps children to learn
- achievement through collaboration

The Children and Young People's Plan

Pat Clewer

- a partnership approach to needs analysis
- integrated work shaped round communities
- strategic commissioning

Vision into action

Deborah Magill

- 9 Child Concern Pathway pilots
- keeping our balance
- the context for the Neighbourhood Studies